

PCSS-B Training

An Educational Resource for Those Treating
Patients with Opioid Use Disorders

HOT TOPICS In Buprenorphine Treatment

*A webinar series offered by the American Psychiatric Association
as part of the CSAT-Funded Physicians Clinical Support System-Buprenorphine (PCSS-B)*

The American Psychiatric Association offers monthly webinars for physicians who have waivers to treat Opioid dependence in office-based settings and other interested clinicians. The presentations address cutting-edge topics in treating substance use disorders and feature nationally prominent clinical experts, researchers, and government officials. Join us the **second Tuesday of each month at noon Eastern.**

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, October 11, 2011: Noon – 1 p.m. Eastern

TOPIC: *Buprenorphine Treatment of Opioid Dependence in Adolescents and Young Adults*

PRESENTERS: **Sharon Levy, M.D., MPH**
Director, Adolescent Substance Abuse Program
Children's Hospital Boston
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Adolescent Substance Abuse Program, Children's Hospital, Boston
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Opioid dependence among adolescents is a growing problem in the United States. According to data from the Monitoring the Future study which surveys adolescents in high school, use of 'narcotics other than heroin' by teenagers has doubled over the past ten years.

A large body of evidence has demonstrated that buprenorphine is effective in treating opioid dependent adults, both for detoxification and long term maintenance; however, there is little consensus regarding the optimal length of medication treatment for adolescents, whose brains are still developing. Few medication studies have included adolescents, but accumulating evidence suggests that opioid replacement therapy can be effective in reducing relapse rates with adolescent populations by stabilizing neurochemistry, ameliorating withdrawal, and curbing cravings.

This webinar will present current "best practice" guidelines for managing opioid dependent adolescents, including review of (1) epidemiology of opioid misuse/abuse/dependence, (2) opioid neurobiology, (3) developmental considerations pertinent to treating adolescents/young adults, and (4) safe opioid prescribing practices.

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